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September 10, 1959

MEMO

TO: JCW

FROM: JM

SUBJECT: Attached article by Adlai Stevenson.

I wonder if you saw this while you were in the USA? In case you did not, I have taken the trouble to type it out for you , for these reasons:

If you are to continue the communications lines you have begun to establish in the USA, with the objective of teaching and influencing as you have the capacity to teach and influence, then it is to the society which Stevenson describes here that you must address yourself ever more and more concretely. Note the two marked paragraphs toward the bottom of page 3 here.

It seems to me that you sensed very well what the West is straining to hear. In your future talks, articles and books, you can fill some of this urgent need - providing always that you keep asking yourself if you are saying what you have to say in words the West can understand. I would think, for example, that after reading this piece of Stevenson's you could write an article which would carry the thinking a step or two further and answer the question thoughtful people are certain to be asking: what is the process and what are the steps by which "the real moral vision to bring the great issues of the day into focus" is to be developed by Westerners? This type of piece might do well for Atlantic Monthly (we shall see what Ted Weeks has to suggest on his return from Europe, if anything.) Or, if not Atlantic, then possibly Harper's Magazine.) There are of course others where such a piece might be welcomed, and once published, special mailings could get it into the hands, and we would hope, minds, of many policy-makers who might otherwise not see it. I beg you to keep in mind, in regard to all your published work, the matter of circulation and of reaching ever wider and wider audiences with it, thus avoiding the routine academic cul-de-sac in which valuable and needed works rot unread on library shelves.

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